

SPECIAL MEETING NORTH SMITHFIELD TOWN COUNCIL

MARCH 10, 2016

KENDALL-DEAN SCHOOL AUDITORIUM

7:00 P.M

The meeting began at 7:00 P.M. with the prayer and the pledge to the flag.

Town Council members present: Ms. Alves, Mrs. Nadeau, Mr. Boucher and Mr. Soly. Also present were Town Solicitor Mr. Iglioizzi and Finance Director Mr. Parmelee.

Planning Board members present: Mr. Naylor. Budget

Committee members present: Ms. Faricy, Mr. Rapko and Mr. Zambarano.

School Committee members present: Mr. Clifford, Mr. Lombardi, Ms. Nadeau, Mr. Bassett, Ms. Jalette and Mr. Raymond.

School Superintendent Mr. Lindberg.

Moderator

for this meeting was Attorney Richard Nadeau, Jr.

JOINT

MEETING SCHOOL COMMITTEE, BUDGET COMMITTEE AND PLANNING BOARD

At 7:04 P.M. Mr. Boucher called a recess due to the fact that the School Committee was still in executive session. Also, the Planning Board did not have a quorum.

Motion made by Mr. Boucher and voted 4 to 0 on an aye vote to come out of recess at 7:12 P.M.

Mr. Bassett updated everyone as to the Stage II phase which has

been put on hold for the fast track. To be clear this is not the entire project just Stage II. RIDE now has two separate programs; Major and Fast track. Fast track only runs from September through the June approval, therefore if we do not meet those dates, March 15 is the next date which will be too late because the requirements will not be met.

1.) School Committee's/School Department's Plan for use of Fund Balance

Mr. Lindberg handed out a packet composed by the School Committee in reference to seven objectives for the fund balance use. Also included in the packet were backup plans for 9 recommendations. The foundation of any project put forward whether in the fast track or major, or if a reserve account is created, RIDE will not approve it unless it is in a 5 year capital improvement plan. This request has gone before the Planning Board and also the Budget Committee.

Mr. Bassett explained the benefits of setting up a capital reserve account. Mr. Lindberg will gather information for the council to review.

Mr. Rapko suggested the Budget Committee would like to see a higher dollar amount in the reserve.

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2.) Funding of Technology Purchase (Chrome books, Carts, Desktops) for School Department

Mr. Stanley expressed that the purchase of thirty desktops for the High School Students' computer lab is the highest priority at this time. Ten to fifteen replacement desktops for Halliwell staff are also needed and additional Chrome book parts.

MOTION by Mr. Boucher, seconded by Ms. Alves, and voted unanimously to discuss \$63,622.00 that the school department would like to use for technology purchases.

Mr. Igliozzi stated that there was a motion made by the council at a previous meeting approving the spending of this money subject to additional information from the School Committee.

Mr. Nadeau recommended that the meeting should move on to number three on the agenda and go back to number two when Mr. Parmelee has completed his presentation.

MOTION by Mr. Boucher and seconded by Ms. Alves, and voted unanimously to withdraw the motion to discuss the spending of \$63,622.00 and will revisit after the presentation for next agenda item is completed.

3.) Presentation by Town Finance Director Parmelee Re: School Capital Funding Plan as presented to the School Committee on February 29, 2016 and to the Town Council on March 7, 2016

Mr. Parmelee handed out a spreadsheet that he had prepared in regards to this matter. Mr. Parmelee suggested two plans that would allow the taxpayers to have a zero dollar tax increase to fund \$200,000.00 a year for the schools.

Mr. Parmelee also suggested forming a committee consisting of five members appointed by the school committee and four by the Town Council, with a specific goal to fund health and safety and to decommission Halliwell School.

Four points Mr. Parmelee would like to stress to the Town Council about his suggestions are as follows: 1.) The cost to the tax payer could be zero dollars 2.) The town will have to kick in the very minimal dollars possible 3.)The school needs to be willing to “empty their wallet to do what they want to do”. 4.) Give the money to the school so they can build up their own capital revolving model and eventually manage their own. 5.) This is strictly capital facility in nature; this has nothing to do with operations.

Mr. Boucher suggested Mr. Igliozi and Mr. Scungio draft an agreement according to Mr. Parmelee’s capital funding plan.

2.) Funding of Technology Purchase (Chrome books, Carts, Desktops) for School Department

MOTION made by Mr. Boucher, seconded by Mrs. Nadeau to release funds of \$63,622.00 to the School Department and to be utilized so that it does not affect the MOE.

Discussion was still on the table for this matter, therefore Mr. Boucher and Mrs. Nadeau were asked to withdraw their motion.

MOTION withdrawn by Mr. Boucher and also by Mrs. Nadeau.

MOTION by Mr. Boucher, seconded by Mrs. Nadeau, and voted unanimously to release the \$63,622.00 formerly designated for the Chrome books for any capital budget item that does not affect the MOE, leaving the discussion for the School Board and the School Department.

MOTION made by Mrs. Nadeau, seconded by Mr. Soly, and voted unanimously to adjourn at 9:05 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,